

Curriculum & Instruction

UTAH STATE OFFICE
OF
EDUCATION

Curriculum Highlights

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Superintendent Harrington

Curriculum and Instruction would like to congratulate Superintendent Harrington on her retirement. Utah's children have benefited from her years of dedication and leadership. Thank you, Superintendent!

District Superintendents and Charter School Directors will be receiving a request for Core Curriculum Representatives after the 1st of July. These representatives will be invited to attend meetings throughout the year, as appropriate. Please take a few moments to complete the list that will be mailed to you, to ensure all content areas are represented for your districts and schools.

June: Dates to Remember

8th-12th: Utah Geography Course AMES Charter School

10th-12th: Topaz Course AMES Jr. High

15th-19th: Specialized Geography Course AMES Charter School

22nd-26th: Social Studies Methods Course Country Inn and Suites

Congratulations to **Vickie Ahlstrom**, 6th grade teacher at Sego Lily Elementary School in the Alpine District, who won the Governors' Award, Teacher of the Year, and is a state finalist for the Presidential Award for Excellence in Science and Math Teaching for Science

Secondary Health Core Approved by the Board: After two years of hard work, the Revised Secondary Health Education Core Curriculum is complete and has been approved by the Board of Education. The new core addresses the many challenges students are facing today. Professional Development will begin this summer with implementation planned for the 2010-2011 school year. There have been reports that in some schools the human sexuality instruction portion of the core is not being taught. It is recommended that local educational agencies take time to clarify for teachers what human sexuality instruction should include. To access the revised core visit http://www.schools.utah.gov/curr/pe_health/default.htm.

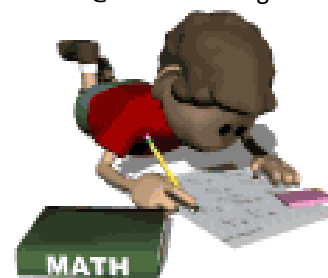
Regional Curriculum Directors Meetings have been scheduled for the following dates and locations (all times are 10:00 a.m.—12:30 p.m.):
August 10: Box Elder District Office
August 11: Canyons District Office
August 12: Carbon District Office
August 13: Iron District Office
Additional details can be found at: <http://www.schools.utah.gov/curr/directors/default.htm>.

The **K-2 Science Core Writing Committee** completed the first draft of the new stand-alone science core during the week of June 9-12. Dr. Reed Spencer (USOE), Dr. Todd Campbell (USU), Dr. Kimberly Lott (USU), Todd Johnson (Wasatch District), Joel Fredriksen (Weber District), and Susan Okroy (USOE), along with a dedicated group of teachers, have made it a priority to tie the new science core to current research and the National Science Standards. The Science Core is divided into four areas of study:

- Earth and Space Science.
- Physical Science.
- Life Science.
- Technology/Society.

The first draft will be presented to the K-2 Science Steering Committee on June 26, 2009, at 10:00 a.m. For further information contact Susan Okroy at susan.okroy@schools.utah.gov or by phone at 801 538-7765. Work will be ongoing through '09-'10. It is anticipated that implementation of the new core will occur in the 2010-2011 school year.

The **3-Tier Model of Mathematics Instruction** is nearly complete. This model will help teachers and administrators implement a model of instruction that will help all students succeed in mathematics. A draft form of the proposed document will be presented at the Rural Schools Conference at the 9:10 a.m. session on Thursday, July 9, and Friday, July 10. The completed model will be disseminated through curriculum directors and mathematics coordinators next fall. If you would like more information, contact Diana Suddreth, Mathematics Specialist, Diana.suddreth@schools.utah.gov.



Four new **MSP (Math Science Partnership) Grants** were awarded for 2009-2010. The titles, subject, and partners are as follows:

- "Collaborative Program Leading to a Master of Science for Secondary School Mathematics Teachers," Mathematics Focus, University of Utah.
- "Comprehensive Mathematics Instruction," Mathematics Focus, Brigham Young University.
- "CWEST—Connecting With Ecology and Science Teaching," Science Focus, Salt Lake City School District/University of Utah.
- "Northern Utah Science Teaching and Laboratory Initiative," Science Focus, Utah State University.

For a complete list of MSP projects currently in Utah and information concerning those visit www.ed-msp.net.